

Appl. No. 10/771,079
Amdt. Dated November 18, 2005
Reply to Office Action of August 19, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the final Office action dated August 19, 2005, in which claims 34-45 were rejected. Claims 34 and 36-40 are now canceled and the remaining claims are in condition for allowance.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 34 and 36-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Brookey et al. (US 6,739,414), optionally in view of Brookey (US 6,148,917). Applicants have chosen to cancel claims 34 and 36-40 without prejudice to refiling in another application.

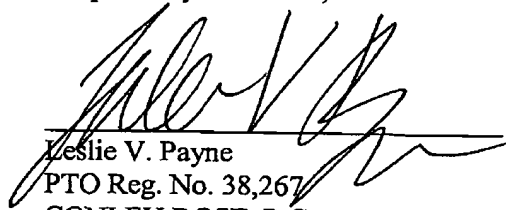
Double Patenting

Claims 34-45 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 and 16-22 of copending Application No 10/842,002. In response, a Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c) is submitted herewith. The present application is co-owned with 10/842,002.

CONCLUSION

Claims 35 and 41-45 are ready for allowance and such favorable action is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments or otherwise feels it would be helpful, he is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (713) 238-8044.

Respectfully submitted,


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